

# NICOLE BOOTHMAN-SHEPARD

GLOBAL EXECUTIVE ADVISOR

RESILIENT AND CLIMATE-ADAPTIVE PLANNING AND DELIVERY OPTIMIZATION

Pre-recovery, Rapid Response, and Resilient Recovery

## Firm

AECOM

Years of Experience - 25

## Education

MS, university administration and college student personnel, University of Rhode Island

BA, economics, University of Rhode Island

## Force Multipliers

Vice Chair, TRB Resilience Section (AMR00)

AECOM US Social Values Task Force for Sustainable Legacies

AECOM US ED&I Champion

FEMA Emergency Management Executive Academy, Cohort 5

Rhode Island Foundation Fellow alumna

Leadership RI alumna

## Professional Expertise

Federal Funding Advisory

2 CFR Part 200, ARPA, FEMA, HUD, FHWA, IJJA, IRA

Resilience + Adaptation

Leveraging the Triple Bottom-Line

Assessing Disaster Impacts

Catastrophe Program Management

Truncating Post-event downtime + preserving community habitability

Transformative Community

Recovery

## Employers

2014 – Present: AECOM

2008 – 2014: Jacobs

2005-2008: Hagerty Consulting

1997-2004: Rhode Island Service Alliance

1994-1997: City Year

## BIO

Nicole Boothman-Shepard is AECOM's Vice President and Senior Director for Resilience + Recovery. Nicole is passionate about partnering with communities on strategic risk reduction for shocks and stresses and facilitating equitable and transformative community development. She is AECOM's global advisor on disaster risk reduction.

Nicole is a national expert in federal policy including US OMB Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) and pre- and post-disaster funding awarded through FEMA, HUD, FHWA, and EPA. She has facilitated the award of \$8B in federal disaster funding for post-disaster stabilization and resilient recovery for public sector clients. Nicole spearheads program management on major and catastrophic recovery focusing on best-value building and infrastructure investments and all aspects of risk avoidance and mitigation.

Nicole provides strategic advisement on sustainable and resilient reconstruction to leverage social, economic, and environmental co-benefits. She is Vice-Chair of the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) Resilience Section which leads all emergency management and resilience committees for all modes. TRB is the transportation arm for the National Academies of Sciences. She is a contributing author of *Climate Change and the Built Environment* (ACEC 2022). Nicole was appointed by 3 executive administrations as Executive Director of the Rhode Island Service Alliance with a dual appointment as the State's Vulnerable Populations Coordinator for RI Emergency Management Agency for a 7-year term prior to joining the private sector.

## AECOM EXPERIENCE

### AECOM Disaster Resilience Solutions PMO (enterprise-wide)

#### Technical Lead for Disaster Resilience, Response and Recovery

Provide leadership on global innovation, client engagement, strategic positioning, and delivery excellence.

**Federal Funding Lead.** Spearheads development of resources to promote expert-level understanding of federal awards for eligibility, funding, and compliance. Supports performance of AECOM's cadre of federal funding and compliance technical specialists and subject matter experts deployed projects across the US for federal grants management work. Promotes skill and engagement of AECOM federal funding cadre through peer-network collaboration and exchange and high-frequency training on law, regulation, and policy. Guides quality assurance to promote consistent quality. [2018-Present]

**Contributing author.** *Climate Change and the Built Environment* (ACEC 2022): Resilience Chapter and Resilience Case Study. Comprehensive case study-oriented content for practitioners on best practices for climate risk assessment and adaptation strategies with a focus on the triple bottom line of community quality of life, sustainability, and economic stability and growth. Written by a team of women authors.

## CLIENT ADVISEMENT

**City of Detroit. Program Director.** Advises the City on strategic investment of \$826M in ARPA funding and \$500M in matching funds to promote equity and multi-generational impact for Detroiters as well as facilitate efficient program and end-to-end grants management and Federal compliance on 100 programs and over 4000 sites.

**Multiple water utility clients, Nationwide.** Executive Advisor. Advises on resilience strategy, funding, procurement, contracting, compliance, funding optimization, and project prioritization.

**Government of the US Virgin Islands.** Executive Advisor. Advised agencies within the Territory's government on FEMA Public Assistance response and recovery for Category 5 Hurricanes, Irma, and Maria. Supports all aspects of law, regulation, policy, and compliance on over \$1B in awards. Oversaw the USVI's \$7B cost estimate developed for Congress on Irma and Maria. Advised USVI Commissioners of schools, housing, and property and procurement on FEMA PA. [2017-present]

**Transportation Research Board NCHRP 08-107.** Principal Investigator + Project Director. *A Contracting Strategies Guidebook for the Administration of Concurrent, Regional Emergencies.* Leading applied research for the Transportation Research Board on optimum Federally-funded procurement, contracting, and project delivery response and recovery strategies when multiple critical transportation corridors are catastrophically compromised in disaster. [2018-present]

**Miami + The Beaches 100RC Strategy, SME.** Developed resources for Resilient 305 Strategy and update including the *Guide to Pre-Planning for Post-Catastrophe*, facilitating functional exercises on lifeline restoration and community habitability, and presenting information on key changes to Federal disaster funding and innovative financial tools such as parametric insurance.

**Colorado DOT, CO.** Executive Advisor to CFO, and Chief Engineer. Provided facilitation and capacity building support for CDOT's Emergency Procedures Leadership Working Group to identify, develop and institutionalize best practices and business processes to improve agency-wide disaster resilience capabilities for procurement and contracting, field technology, emergency management, finance, engineering, and maintenance. [2016-2018]

**Louisiana GOHSEP, Shelter at Home Program (FEMA STEP), LA.** Technical Expert. Developed and monitored performance of FEMA Public Assistance Program compliance involving over 130 laws and regulations, as well as key policy provisions for FEMA including STEP Guidance. [2016-2017]

**Colorado DOT Flood Recovery, CO. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief and FEMA Public Assistance.** Senior Policy Advisor. Guided CO Department of Transportation's Incident Commander and CFO on strategic, operational, and tactical delivery of \$720M FHWA ER flood recovery program and FEMA PA Debris Management. Focused on federal disaster funding, audit and political risk mitigation, federal compliance, project delivery strategies, and data management. Evaluated proposed resiliency betterments under FHWA ER. [2013-2016]

**Sandy Recovery, New York.** Subject Matter Expert. Provided strategic support to staff and clients on Sandy FEMA and other funded recovery, vulnerability analyses, green infrastructure, and building mitigations to protect against future events. Diverse client base includes NY State, New York City, transit, housing, banking, and finance. [2012-2013]

**Sandy Recovery, MTA Bridges & Tunnels, New York.** Subject Matter Expert. Identified and facilitated presentation of \$750M in FEMA Public Assistance funded Sandy recovery on the Brooklyn Battery and Queens-Midtown Tunnels as well as MTA bridges. Assessed resiliencies, considered expedited project delivery models and the FEMA Pilot program, and ensured procurement, contracting and grants aligned with fed laws. [2012-2013]

**Katrina Recovery, New Orleans Schools, Louisiana.** Disaster Resilience Lead / Subject Matter Expert. Successfully spearheaded LA Dept. of Education's Recovery School District and Orleans Parish School Board's \$2B FEMA Public Assistance Program settlement with FEMA and OMB on New Orleans public schools' eligibility for Katrina damages, including the single largest Public Assistance grant in FEMA history of \$1.3B. Settlement was culmination of 12 months of intensive strategic positioning and entrepreneurial policy approaches resulting in 400% increase in FEMA funding for clients. Negotiated complex policy and tactical/change management solutions with FEMA Region VI, State Office of Community Development (CDBG grantee) and GOHSEP (State emergency management grantee) on funding, compliance and risk-management matters related to RSD's \$1.8B in FEMA and CDBG capital program for 89 schools. Facilitated streamlined FEMA/SHPO historic reviews to successfully rehabilitate 50 historic K-12 campuses to Secretary of Interior Standards and LEED Silver. [2008-2012]

**FEMA Headquarters, Washington DC.** Project Manager. Developed FEMA's Public Assistance Program Organizational Structure for 3 scales of disasters for deployments of up to 5000 personnel resources per event per Region. Developed efficiencies for modular and scalable organizational structure and brought FEMA PA deployments into compliance with the Incident Command System [2006-2007]

**FEMA Headquarters, Washington DC.** Project Manager. Led reorganization of FEMA disaster planning cadre for long-term community recovery including cadre selection criteria, performance monitoring, and development of job aids and other tools. [2006-2007]

**FEMA Region VI: Katrina/Rita Recovery, Louisiana.** Policy & Congressional Affairs Specialist. Interpreted FEMA PA policy on behalf of FEMA Region VI and recommended policy determinations on appeals. Drafted responses to Congressional questions on Katrina recovery. PAC Crew leader. Developed Baseline Cost Generator to rapidly assess and obligate \$360M in FEMA PA funding for k-12 and higher education on disaster damaged facility contents including FFE. [2006-2007]

**Rhode Island Service Alliance.** Executive Director. Led State agency to activate the spirit of service and volunteerism and promote achievement of 19,000 children. Oversaw \$MM grant competitions, project oversight, and audits for AmeriCorps and K-12 programs. Shaped innovative programs – e.g., enabled teachers to promote positive social change through service while providing master's degree coursework with universities; engaged community police, social workers, and parole officers in community mediation and Kingian non-violence techniques to collaborate on neighborhood health teams; developed non-profit executive and emerging leaders program with Brown U. and the RI Foundation. [1998-2004] [Deputy Director 1997-1998]